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HARTFORD – **Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01)** issued the following statement after Connecticut Light & Power missed their Sunday evening deadline to restore power to 99 percent of customers and as of Tuesday morning had still failed to restore power to over 20,000 households. Larson, who met with line crews and talked with volunteers in shelters praised the men and women involved in the recovery effort for, “demonstrating all that is good in our communities, state and nation.”

“As we approach Thanksgiving and this horrific event passes, we have much to be grateful for. However, nothing short of a comprehensive look back to both better prepare us for the next storm and to correct the mistakes that have occurred will suffice.

“Finger pointing won’t turn on a light or warm a house, but accountability and an ability to effectively respond in a crisis calls for a full investigation of the response at all levels.

“Despite multiple assurances last week, CL&P failed to meet its self-imposed deadline of Sunday at midnight to restore power to 99 percent of their customers. Unfortunately, too many in my district, and around the state, are still in the dark 10 days after the power first went out. Residents of West Hartford, Bloomfield and Granby are still without power, while far too many other towns are facing an unacceptably high percentage of outages.

“This failure to respond has caused hardships all over the state and in some cases has resulted in loss of life and demands a comprehensive review.

“I applaud Governor Malloy’s call for an independent look at CL&P’s response as well as my colleagues call for FERC’s examination of the Federal Power Act. I firmly believe a comprehensive investigation that will look at the response to this storm from CL&P’s prevention and restoration plans to federal and state response and coordination is necessary. An investigation should also address NU’s prioritization of shareholders versus customers as throughout our state far too many customers have been left in the dark.”

“We must ensure that this sort of failure never happens again.”

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